

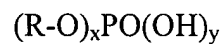
IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1–48, and add new claims 49-70, thereby amending the claim set to read as follows:

1 –48. (Canceled)

49. (New) A polymer matrix composition for plastics applications comprising:

- (a) a pigment, said pigment comprising an inorganic pigmentary base that has been treated with a salt of an organo-acid phosphate compound, wherein said organo-acid phosphate compound has the formula:

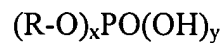


wherein $x = 1$ or 2 ,
 $y = 3 - x$, and
R is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms;
and

- (b) a polymer,
wherein said polymer matrix has an essential absence of water and an essential absence of organic solvents.

50. (New) A polymer film comprising:

- (i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises an inorganic pigmentary base and an organo-acid phosphate compound, wherein said organo-acid phosphate compound has the formula:



wherein $x = 1$ or 2 ,

$y = 3 - x$, and

R is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms;

and

(ii) a polymer,

wherein said polymer film contains an essential absence of water and organic solvents, said organo-acid phosphate compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight of the pigmentary base, and said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.

51. (New) The polymer film of claim 50, wherein said polymer is polyethylene.
52. (New) The polymer film of claim 50, wherein said inorganic pigmentary base is titanium dioxide.
53. (New) The polymer film of claim 50, further comprising a polyalcohol or an alkanolmine.
54. (New) The polymer film of claim 50 further comprising an additional metal oxide selected from the group consisting of aluminum oxide, silicon dioxide and zirconium oxide.
55. (New) A polymer film comprising:
 - (i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises titanium dioxide and an organo-acid phosphate compound, wherein said organo-acid phosphate compound has the formula:



wherein $x = 1$ or 2 ,

$y = 3 - x$, and

R is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms;

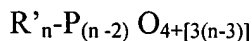
and

(ii) a polymer,

wherein said polymer film comprises polyethylene and contains an essential absence of water and organic solvents, said organo-acid phosphate compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight of the titanium dioxide, and wherein said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.

56. (New) A polymer film comprising:

(i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises an inorganic pigmentary base and an organo-phosphoric acid compound having the formula:



wherein $n = 4-14$, and each R' is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms or hydrogen and within any one molecule, any two or more R' groups may be the same provided that at least one of the R' groups is not hydrogen; and

(ii) a polymer,

wherein said organo-phosphoric acid compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight

of the pigmentary base, and said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.

57. (New) The polymer film of claim 56, wherein said polymer is polyethylene.
58. (New) The polymer film of claim 56, wherein said inorganic pigmentary base is titanium dioxide.
59. (New) The polymer film of claim 56 further comprising a polyalcohol or an alkanolmine.
60. (New) The polymer film of claim 56 further comprising an additional metal oxide selected from the group consisting of aluminum oxide, silicon dioxide and zirconium oxide.
61. (New) A polymer film comprising:
- (i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises titanium dioxide and an organo-phosphoric acid compound having the formula:
$$R'_n-P_{(n-2)}O_{4+[3(n-3)]}$$

wherein $n = 4 - 14$ and each R' is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms or hydrogen and within any one molecule, any two or more R' groups may be the same provided that at least one of the R' groups is not hydrogen; and
 - (ii) a polymer, wherein said polymer comprises polyethylene, wherein said organo-phosphoric acid compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight of the titanium dioxide, and wherein said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.

62. (New) A polymer film comprising:

(i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises an inorganic pigmentary base and an organometaphosphate compound having the formula:



wherein $m = 1 - 14$, and each R'' is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms or hydrogen and within any one molecule, any two or more R'' groups may be the same provided that at least one of the R'' groups is not hydrogen; and

(ii) a polymer,

wherein said organometaphosphate compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight of the pigmentary base, and said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.

63. (New) The polymer film of claim 62, wherein said polymer is polyethylene.

64. (New) The polymer film of claim 62, wherein said inorganic pigmentary base is titanium dioxide.

65. (New) The polymer film of claim 62 further comprising a polyalcohol or an alkanolmine.

66. (New) The polymer film of claim 62 further comprising an additional metal oxide selected from the group consisting of aluminum oxide, silicon dioxide and zirconium oxide.
67. (New) A polymer film comprising:
- (i) a treated pigment, wherein said treated pigment comprises titanium dioxide and an organometaphosphate compound having the formula:
$$(R''PO_3)_m$$

wherein $m = 1 - 14$, and each R'' is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms or hydrogen and within any one molecule, any two or more R'' groups may be the same provided that at least one of the R'' groups is not hydrogen; and
 - (ii) a polymer, wherein said polymer is polyethylene, wherein said organometaphosphate compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight, based on the weight of the titanium dioxide, and wherein said treated pigment is present in an amount up to about 20 wt. % based on the weight of the polymer film.
68. (New) The polymer film of claim 50, wherein the pigmentary base has been treated with a salt of said organo-acid phosphate compound.
69. (New) The polymer film of claim 56, wherein the pigmentary base has been treated with a salt of said organo-phosphoric acid compound.
70. (New) The polymer film of claim 62, wherein the pigmentary base has been treated with a salt of said organometaphosphate compound.